

Benefit Changes in the 2011-13 biennium, effective July 1, 2011 unless otherwise noted:

These services were eliminated in the FY2011 Supplemental Budget and were not restored in the new biennial budget:

Adult Hearing Hardware Services

Adult Vision Hardware Services

Adult Outpatient Physical, Occupational, Speech Therapies

Medicare Part D Co-Pays

Maternity Support Program: Continues a reduction in program funding of approximately 30% by serving the highest priority needs of expectant and new mothers.

The following services were eliminated in the FY2011 Supplemental Budget, then were amended in the new biennial budget:

Adult Dental Services: The reduction in funding for preventive and restorative dental care for adult recipients of state medical assistance continues effective July 1, 2011. However, clients with developmental disabilities, pregnant women and those who reside in a nursing home or intermediate care facility, or receive long-term care services under one of the Medicaid home- and community-based services waivers will receive full benefit once the new scope of coverage is reconciled with Washington's state plan and the Washington Administrative Code. Children's dental coverage continues and is not affected by this change. NOTE: Extending the dental coverage to pregnant adult women and certain long-term care clients is expected to be effective October 1. Payment for dental work for these clients prior to October 1 may not be covered. Only emergency dental care will be covered for other adult medical assistance recipients.

Children's Health Program: CHP, which provides medical and dental coverage for children ineligible for federal funding, will no longer provide subsidized coverage

for children with family incomes over 200% of the federal poverty level. Medicaid will calculate these new higher premiums.

Adult Podiatry Services: Medicaid now will only reimburse for adult foot care when it is medically necessary to treat acute conditions or non-acute conditions for at-risk clients.

School-Based Medical Services for Children in Special Education: Programs will initiate a new intergovernmental transfer program under which the state will provide 40% and school districts 60% of the required non-federal matching funds for therapies and other qualifying medical services.

Interpreter Services: The medical assistance program will replace the current system for delivery of spoken-language interpreter services with specialty contractors, effective January 1, 2012.

Watch for additional budget updates at:

<http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov/News/Budget.htm>

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Major changes for providers in the state's new biennial budget:

Federally Qualified Health Centers: Continues a new Alternate Payment Methodology effective April 6, 2011, which will reduce rates by about 10.6%.

Hospitals: 40% Reduction to the low-income, the urban indigent assistance, and the small rural Disproportionate Share programs; Medicaid directed to develop list of non-emergent conditions and implement a three-visit maximum for non-emergency visits to hospital emergency rooms; 8% reduction of Medicaid inpatient payment rates; 7% reduction of Medicaid outpatient payment rates.

Health Information Technology: Increases state funding by \$224,000 for administrative costs needed to implement the federally funded Medicaid provider incentive payments for the Electronic Health Record program.

Program Integrity: Additional audit and benefit coordination staff for recoveries and cost avoidance; contract with a private firm to help identify additional recipients who may have private or other public insurance coverage who can pay for their medical care; increase by 10% the number of recipients for whom identification will net state savings of approximately \$24 million.

Consolidation/Merger: Administration of the medical assistance programs is transferred from the Department of Social and Health Services to the Health Care Authority.

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